



Renata Hesse
Department of Justice, Antitrust Department
601 D St NW
Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse,

I am writing as a Kansas State Representative and Vice Chairman of the House Business, Commerce, and Labor Committee. As settlement in the Microsoft suit hangs in the balance, I write with genuine concern for the future of our industry.

The Microsoft Antitrust suit was brought to fruition due to antiquated rules and regulations written during the development of the railroads. Microsoft's harm to the consumer has yet to be proven; point in fact, there is a discrepancy in claims that Microsoft has undercut the competition by under pricing, yet there are contradicting claims that Microsoft has overcharged the consumer.

Microsoft is primarily guilty of supplying a terrific product for a *huge* niche market. A market they actually helped to grow due to high demand for the technology they pioneered. The prosecution of Microsoft for giving the consumer what they ask for is absurd. Like any business, Microsoft has tried to protect the details of their products from competitors and tried to maintain their market share.

The real meat of this lawsuit lies in the antitrust laws themselves. Microsoft's competitors have merged and aligned in a full attack in hopes of gaining Microsoft's market share through court orders rather than through the free market system. It's as if these laws are allowing the competition to monopolize Microsoft with protection of the courts.

In the time since the lawsuit was introduced, the software and tech industries have metamorphosed into a living, breathing organism, changing daily with each new advance.

Paid for by Peggy Long for State Representative, Cindy Rayburn, Treasurer.

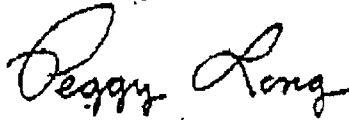


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There are no linear changes here. Each new advance seems to drive the consumer toward a different direction. This reality holds no market share security for Microsoft. In your consideration of the settlement of this suit, please be thoughtful as to the root of the problem, outdated antitrust law. Prompt settlement will appease the competition, but more importantly let industry move on without such slowing scrutiny.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peggy Long". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Representative Peggy Long